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REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE

Rural District of South Molton

FOR THE YEAR

1972

RURAL DISTRICT OF SOUTH MOLTON

Telephone No.

South Molton 2117

Public Health Department,
8 East Street,
South Molton.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E. WILLIAMS

Medical Officer of Health

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

L.W. EVES

Chief Public Health Inspector

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
M.R.I.P.H.H.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the South Molton Rural District Council.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the ANNUAL report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Rural District of South Molton for the year 1972.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

E. WILLIAMS

STAFF

The staff of the Public Health Department consists of:

E. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

L.W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector

D.J. BYRON, A.I.A.S., M.A.P.H.I.

J.H.V. RANDS, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
Additional Public Health Inspector

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	117,432
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate)	11,300
Extracts from Vital Statistics:-	
Births: Comparability Factor	1.25
Deaths	0.76

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	162
Rate per 1000 population	14.3
Rate per 1000 population adjusted by Comp. Factor	17.9
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	6%
Still Births:-	
Number	1
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	6

Total Live and Still Births	163
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	2
Infant Mortality Rates:-	
Total Infant Deaths per 1000 Total Live Births	12
Legit. Infant Deaths per 1000 Legit. Live Births	7
Illegit. Infant Deaths per 1000 Illegit. Live Births	111
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 Total Live Births)	6
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1000 Total Live Births)	6
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 wk. combined, per 1000 Total Live and Still Births)	12
Maternal Mortality (Including Abortion)	Nil
Deaths	157
Death Rate per 1000 Population	13.9
Death Rate per 1000 Population adjusted by Comp. Factor	10.6

POPULATION FIGURES SINCE 1950

	Population	Live Births	Deaths
1950	9038	161	100
1955	9030	115	95
1960	8780	114	111
1961	8220	126	98
1962	8400	135	93
1963	8410	116	93
1964	8430	124	94
1965	8430	132	100
1966	8410	129	92
1967	11350	162	162
1968	11310	161	158
1969	11210	127	173
1970	11070	134	160
1971	11250	117	143
1972	11300	162	157

During the year there were 162 live births in the Rural Area as compared with 117 in 1971. There were 99 males and 63 females born.

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	94	59	153
Illegitimate	5	4	9
		TOTAL	162

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	0	0	0
Illegitimate	1	0	1
		TOTAL	1

DEATHS

During the year there were 157 deaths, of which 85 were males and 72 females.

The following table gives the Cause of Death:

	M	F	Total
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	1	1	2
Measles	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	2	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	8	1	9
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	2	-	2
Leukaemia	1	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	6	5	11
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	-	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	-	4	4
Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1	1
Hypertensive Disease	2	2	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	24	13	37
Other Forms of Heart Disease	9	4	13
Cerebrovascular Disease	7	11	18
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	4	-	4
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	3	4	7
Bronchitis and Emphysema	3	1	4
Asthma	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	-	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	3	-	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	-	1	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	-	3	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1	4
All other Accidents	1	3	4
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1	2	3
TOTAL	85	72	157

DEATHS

Under 4 wks.	1	35 - 44 yrs.	6
4 wks - 1 yr.	1	45 - 54 yrs.	8
1 - 4 yrs.	1	55 - 64 yrs.	22
5 - 14 yrs.	0	65 - 74 yrs.	47
15 - 24 yrs.	2	75+	68
25 - 34 yrs.	1		

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

During the year two infants died under the age of 1 year giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 12.

MATERIAL MORTALITY

No deaths were attributable to childbirth during the year.

CANCER DEATHS

There were 35 deaths due to cancer during the year. There were 9 deaths due to lung cancer.

	M.	F.	Total
Buccal Cavity	1	1	2
Oesophagus	-	1	1
Intestine	2	2	4
Stomach Cancer	-	1	1
Lung and Bronchus Cancer	8	1	9
Breast	-	3	3
Uterus	-	1	1
Other Cancers	6	5	11
Leukaemia	-	1	1
Prostate	2	-	2

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (SECTION 47)

No cases were dealt with under this Act during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 39 infectious disease notifications were received of which 38 were measles. There were no cases of Tuberculosis. One Scarlet Fever case was reported.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

TUBERCULOSIS

The Mass X-Ray Unit visits Tuly Street, Barnstaple on alternate Wednesday evenings and its service is available to the general public between the hours of 4.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m.

GENERAL HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The South Molton and District Cottage Hospital, situated in South Molton, serves the town and the surrounding district.

The North Devon Infirmary, at Barnstaple, also serves the area and provides Specialists' Services.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases are sent to Whipton Hospital, near Exeter.

SMALLPOX

All smallpox cases will be sent to Liskeard Smallpox Hospital. Plymouth Ambulance Service will provide transport; telephone No. Plymouth 64101.

CHEST CLINICS

These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple.

V.D. CLINICS

These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple.

Times and days are as below for the sessions:-

Females Monday 4.30 - 5.30 p.m. Thursday 9.30 - 10.30 a.m.

Males Monday 5.30 - 6.30 p.m. Thursday 10.30 - 12 Noon

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOMES

There is 1 District Nurse and 4 District Nurse/Midwives in the area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The main laboratory is situated at Church Lane, Heavitree, Exeter. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for Bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Bacteriological examinations of water and milk are also carried out there. The service is extremely valuable, and is widely used by the medical practitioners.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75 Bouthport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon Area. There is a Blood Bank at this laboratory.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER CLINIC

The following clinics are held at the Devon County Council Health Centre at East Street, South Molton.

Ante Natal	Wednesday	By appointment
Child Health	Thursday	2.00p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Relaxation & Mother Craft	2nd & 4th Tuesdays	2.00p.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Vaccination & Immunisation		By appointment
Chiropody	Every Monday 3rd, 4th, 5th Wednesday	9.30a.m. - 12.30p.m. 2.00p.m. - 4.30p.m.
Ophthalmic		By appointment
Speech Therapy	Friday	Mornings only
Dental	2nd & 4th Thursdays	
Family Planning	4th Friday in month	
Cervical Cytology		By appointment

AMBULANCE SERVICES

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association.

Under the scheme, an ambulance station has been established at South Molton. The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available on application to the hospital by the doctor concerned, and the ambulance service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when an ambulance is not necessary.

JUNIOR TRAINING CENTRE - ABBEYFIELD, BARNSTAPLE

This centre provides training facilities for mentally handicapped children between the ages of 5 and 16. Hostel accommodation is also provided for children who may live some distance away from the centre.

ADULT TRAINING CENTRE - HAWLEY, BARNSTAPLE

A new adult training centre for the North Devon area was opened in 1966 for the training of handicapped adults. This centre also has hostel accommodation.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Within South Molton the Women's Voluntary Service distribute 36 meals twice a week to the elderly. In the Rural District Area the W.V.S. collect and distribute approximately 15 meals twice a week to the elderly in North Molton. The meals are prepared and cooked at a cafe in South Molton.

Four meals are distributed twice a week at East Worlington. Twelve meals are distributed twice a week at Chulmleigh. For East Worlington and Chulmleigh the meals are prepared at the local school canteens. During school holidays the members of the W.V.S. themselves prepare the meals.

E. WILLIAMS

Medical Officer of Health

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR TO THE SOUTH MOLTON RURAL AREA

For the year ended 31st December, 1972.

8 East Street,
South Molton.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report relating to
work carried out during 1972.

During the year 4698 visits and inspections were made
including:

Public Health

Building Regulations	1200
Caravan and Camping Sites	30
Disinfections and Disinfestations	2
Drains Inspected and Tested	201
General	71
Infectious Diseases	0
Nuisances	51
Refuse Collection and Disposal	53
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	132
Water Supplies	96
Water Samples	4

Town and Country Planning Acts. 170

Food & Drugs

General	21
Meat & Food Inspection (excluding Poultry)	122
Poultry Inspection	90

Factories

With Power	9
Without Power	0

Housing

Slum Clearance, Housing Acts, Rent Act	56
Council Houses in course of erection, Housing Sites and Council Houses, supervision etc.	1100
Improvement Grants	420

Petroleum Regulations

21

Interviews - Owners, Builders etc.

630

Public Conveniences

10

Waste Foods

0

Miscellaneous	100
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises	35
Swimming Baths	74

TOTAL 4698

WATER

Location	No. of Houses Supplied from Public Mains	Estimated Population So Served	No. of Houses Supplied by Stand-Pipe on Public Mains	Estimated Population So Served
Anstey East	36	89	-	-
Anstey West	35	68	1	2
Bishopsnympton	174	410	1	-
Buckland East	18	35	-	-
Buckland West	58	168	-	-
Burrington	67	215	-	-
Charles (Brayford)	44	130	-	-
Chittlehamholt	56	168	-	-
Chittlehampton	206	619	-	-
Cheldon	1	4	-	-
Chulmleigh	393	1007	2	8
Crescombe	3	6	-	-
Filleigh	64	171	-	-
Georgensympton	40	123	-	-
Kingsnympton	82	223	1	3
Knowstone	41	115	-	-
Mariansleigh	60	145	-	-
Meshaw	35	87	-	-
Molland	3	3	-	-
North Molton	275	792	3	8
Queensympton	4	14	-	-
Rackenford	70	197	-	-
Romansleigh	22	73	-	-
Rose Ash	59	156	-	-
Satterleigh & Warkleigh	26	67	-	-
South Molton	1118	2793	-	-
Witheridge	250	703	-	13
Worlington East	70	245	-	-

33 Samples of private supplies were taken with the results as shown:

	Chemical	Bacteriological
Satisfactory	-	21
Unsatisfactory	-	12

Two bacteriological samples of public supply were taken and reported as satisfactory.

Where the private water supplies were found to be unsatisfactory informal action was taken to have the matter remedied or an alternative source found, in many cases, in conjunction with the Drainage and Water Supplies Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Equipment for the installation of a wedge wire clarifier was received for the North Molton Sewage Works, but work had not been commenced at the end of the year.

Work was commenced on the Brayford Sewerage Scheme at the end of August. Sewer laying and reinstatement of highways was completed by the end of the year. Brickwork construction of the filter humus tank and septic were nearing completion.

Burrington Sewerage Scheme was commenced in the middle of August. The sewers were laid first and some work had been carried out in constructing the oxidation ditch and settlement tank by the end of the year, but progress was poor, partly due to adverse site conditions.

A start was made on the Romansleigh Sewage Scheme in July. The sewers were laid, and at the disposal works the filter and septic tank were nearing completion when the Contractors ran out of Engineering Bricks. The Contractors left the site in November, the bricks being unobtainable at that time.

Some improvement work to the Bishopsmypton Sewerage System was still outstanding at the end of the year.

Although the effluent from the Chulnleigh Sewage Works continues to be satisfactory it is evident that with the proposals for residential development the works capacity must be increased. The Council instructed their Consulting Engineers in May to prepare a scheme to double the capacity of the disposal works. Approval to the proposals was awaited from the Department of the Environment and River Board at the end of the year.

Investigations at Chittlehampton revealed that the bulk of the surface water infiltration to the sewers occurs in the region of Townsend and it is intended to carry out remedial works by direct labour.

In May the new disposal works for Witheridge was commenced. The long length of effluent pipeline from the works to the Little River Dart was laid, the sludge drying beds were constructed, the oxidation ditch was completed and a start was made on the construction of the settlement tank.

The Consulting Engineers having been instructed to investigate and report on the urgent need to increase sewage disposal facilities

at South Holton favoured the construction of an additional sewage disposal works at Clapworthy. An application for consent to discharge effluent to the River Bray was made to the Devon River Authority and was awaiting determination at the end of the year.

HOUSING

During the year 40 houses were improved under the Standard Grant Scheme and 42 under the Discretionary Grant Scheme. 36 Council houses were erected during the year and 14 were under construction.

53 private houses were erected during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS

(a) The number of food premises in this area, by type of business is:

Bakehouses	8
Butchers' Shops	12
Cafes and Restaurants	4
Confectioners	12
Fish and Chip Shops	2
Fishmongers	1
Greengrocers	6
Greengrocers and Provision Dealers	32
Guest Houses	8
Public Houses, Hotels	36
Dairies	5

(b) Twenty premises are registered for the manufacture or preparation of preserved food.

Sixty premises are registered for the sale and storage of ice-cream.

Five premises are registered as dairies.

(c) All condemned food is disposed of at the Council's refuse tip under supervision.

(d) Food Hygiene Regulations, 1950.

Thirty-One inspections were made to food premises. Improvements and compliance with the regulations were secured.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Two licensed slaughterhouses continued in use throughout the year. They were maintained in a satisfactory condition and all animals killed were inspected. It was necessary to condemn 3 qts. 2 lbs. of carcass meat and 1 cwt. 2 qts. 1 lb. of offal.

POULTRY PROCESSING PREMISES

Visits were made as necessary to the poultry processing premises where some 700,000 hens are slaughtered. It was necessary to reject 2,207 birds (7,615 lbs.) 2 tons. 1 cwt. 1 qrt.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

DAIRIES

The dairies within the district were maintained in satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES ACTS 1961

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	-	-	-
Factories Not included in above in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	56	20	-	-
Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	2	-	-
TOTAL	70	22	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Section 1 - 4 Nil.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecution were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To HM Insp.	To HM Insp.	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out Work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act (Out Work)
Sections 133 & 134

Nature of Work	Wearing Apparel Making etc.
No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	7
No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	-
No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	-
No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	-
Notices served	-
Prosecutions	-
TOTAL	7

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	150	Nil	373	395	Nil
Number Inspected	150	Nil	373	395	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci	-	-	-	-	-
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	-	6	15	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	5.3	-	1.6	3.8	-
Tuberculosis only whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	1	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	.25	-
Cysticercosis Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

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